

## Mary Lou Terrien

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**From:** linda schmitigal <lschmitigal@chartermi.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 2, 2016 3:18 PM  
**To:** Mary Lou Terrien  
**Subject:** Refugee Resettlement Act of 1980

From:  
Mrs. Linda Schmitigal  
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It is my understanding that a committee is planning to meet in order to recommend a halt to bringing refugees to the US. Our church at Lutheran Church of the Savior has been sponsoring a family since July of this year. I have many positive things I could say about this relationship. And we have learned that the family went through 3 years of screening with rigorous questioning and background checks. I have also been helping others settle here in Kalamazoo and have found each one to be genuinely grateful and excited to begin a new life. I have seen children happy again and families gradually regaining security and happiness. I have been blessed a hundred fold this year.

I urge you to please not reinforce the Act as it would send a message of despair rather than the Welcoming state we are known for. Please pass the message along that we are in full support of continuing to welcome those who seek refuge here in the US. That is what our nation is about.

Kind Regards  
Linda Schmitigal